following figures on domestic and foreign tourist visits to the States:—

State	Domestic & Foreign Tourist visits (in Million)		
	2003	2004	2005
Gujarat	7.68	7.77	8.12
Maharashtra	12.26	14.61	15.72
J&K	5.77	6.92	7.28
All India	315.75	374.59	400.41

For the year 2006, it is estimated that the foreign tourist arrivals to India during the period, January-October increased by 13.1% over the corresponding period in the previous year.

In J&K, the valley saw an immediate effect on tourist arrivals after the unfortunate incidents of terrorist activity. Corrective measures including promotional campaign through the print and visual media to control the damage, has resulted in increase in the tourism traffic. Security forces are continuing their sustained campaign against terrorists to further improve the situation.

The State Government remain fully committed to maintaining law & order in the country in association with the Central Government, and tourists should not entertain any apprehensions on this account.

Non-completion of irrigation projects on time

*90. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether irrigation facility is available only to 39 per cent of agricultural land out of a total 14 crore hectare agricultural land;

(b) whether this situation has occurred only due to non-completion of irrigation projects on time;

(c) the details of irrigation projects lying pending together with the reasons for their non-completion and the quantum of funds incurred on these projects so far; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide irrigation facilities to each farmer?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir. According to the Land Use Statistics for 2003-04 compiled by Ministry of Agriculture, the net sown area in the country is estimated to be 14.09 crore hectare and the net irrigated area is 5.51 crore hectare *i.e.* 39.10%. The gross irrigated area has been estimated to be 7.68 crore hectare.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As per the information provided by the State Government, it is estimated that by the end of Tenth Plan, 477 irrigation projects will remain incomplete and will spill over to Eleventh Plan. The details are annexed as Statement. (*See below*) The important reasons for delay in completion of the projects are inadequate provisions of funds in State budget, delay in transfer of funds to the executing agencies and delay in land acquisition etc. The cost incurred so far on the above said ongoing projects has been estimated to be about Rs. 122896 crore.

(d) Irrigation being a state subject, irrigation projects are conceived, planned and implemented by the State Governments as per their own priority. However, Government of India provides central assistance to the State Governments for completion of on-going irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). Further, a pilot scheme titled "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" has been approved by Government of India in January 2005. Government of India also provides support under centrally sponsored scheme for Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) with a view to bridging the gap between irrigation potential created and potential utilized. The Government has taken several measures to improve the irrigation facilities. The National Common Minimum Programme of UPA Government provides for time bound completion of the on-going irrigation projects and also stipulates stepping up of public investment in irrigation in a significant manner. Irrigation is an important component of Bharat Nirman Programme which stipulates creation of 1 crores hectare of irrigation potential during 2005-09. Further, the AIBP criteria have been relaxed and procedures simplified to cover more projects under this programme. The Government has also constituted a "National Rainfed Area Authority" with a view to address the problems of rainfed areas and for sustainable development of such areas. Further, the draft Approach Paper for XI Plan also proposes to double the rate of growth of irrigation and to improve water management, rainwater harvesting and watershed development.

Statement

Details of the projects likely to Spillover to Eleventh Five Year Plan

	Major	Medium	ERM	Total
Andhra Pradesh	26	19	6	51
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Assam	2	2	2	6
Bihar	10	2	5	17
Chhattisgarh	4	7	1	12
Goa	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	3	15	11	29
Haryana	1	0	1	2
Himachal Pradesh	1	3	0	4
Jammu & Kashmir	0	6	4	10
Jharkhand	6	16	0	22
Karnataka	15	27	5	47
Kerala	3	4	2	9
Madhya Pradesh	18	8	5	31
Maharashtra	53	83	3	139
Manipur	2	1	4	7
Meghalaya	0	1	0	1
Mizoram	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	1	0	1
Orissa	7	10	14	31
Punjab	1	0	2	3
Rajasthan	2	7	2	11
Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	0	2	3	5
Tripura	0	3	0	3
Uttar Pradesh	9	0	13	22
Uttaranchal	1	0	0	1
West Bengal	2	5	6	13
TOTAL	166	222	89	477